

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /076 W

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R 300950Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9274

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 0479

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1080

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GB, KN, KS

SUBJ: BONGO PROMISES NO CHANGE IN KOREA POLICY

REF: SEOUL 3445

1. FOLLOWING BOTH INSTRUCTIONS AND INCLINATION, ROK AMBASSADOR KIM SAW PRESIDENT BONGO APRIL 27 TO SEEK ASSURANCES OF GABONESE FIDELITY TO THE SOUTH KOREAN CAUSE.

2. ACCORDING TO KIM, BONGO DESCRIBED HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO PYONGYANG AS "PURELY POLITICAL" AND PROMISED THAT HE WOULD NOT BE SEDUCED BY DPRK AWAY FROM HIS TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP FOR SOUTH KOREA. WHEN KIM SUGGESTED THAT BONGO PUT HIS ASSURANCES IN WRITING TO PRESIDENT PARK, BONGO READILY AGREED AND PREPARED LETTER TO THIS EFFECT WHICH WAS DELIVERED TO KIM APRIL 29.

3. IN COURSE PHONE CONVERSATION ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, BONGO ASKED ME TO TRANSMIT TO USG SAME REASSURANCES ON KOREAN ISSUE WHICH HE HAD ALREADY PROVIDED TO ROKG. HE ADDED SPECIFIC STATEMENT THAT HE HAD NO INTENTION OF PERMITTING NORTH KOREAN ADVISERS OF ANY KIND IN GABON.

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4. MEANWHILE, SMALL CONTRETEMPS APPEARS TO HAVE ARISEN OVER DATES FOR DPRK VISIT. NORTH KOREANS REPORTEDLY EXTENDED GENERAL INVITATION FOR "MAY" BUT NOW FIND THAT BONGO'S PREFERENCE FOR FIRST WEEK IN MONTH GIVES THEM CONFLICT WITH SCHEDULED VISITS BY JAMAICAN PRIMIN AND PRESIDENT OF GUINEA BISSAU. AS OF THIS

MORNING, BONGO STILL PLANNING LEAVE ON MAY 2, BUT
EXACT ORDER OF STOPS (WHICH INCLUDE PEKING -- THOUGH
NOT ON OFFICIAL VISIT BUT ONLY TRANSIT -- AND HONG KONG
FOR SHOPPING) NOT YET FINAL. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 30-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 2694081
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TAGS: PFOR, GB, KN, KS, (BONGO, EL HADJ OMAR)
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